

Applicant: William Michael Lafferty  
Application No.: 09/894,956  
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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Upon entry of the present amendment, the claims will stand as follows:

Please cancel claims 11-43 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A sample screening apparatus comprising:  
a plurality of capillaries fixedly held together in an array, wherein each capillary comprises at least one wall defining a lumen for retaining a sample by capillary forces; and  
interstitial material disposed between adjacent capillaries in the array.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each capillary has an aspect ratio of between 10:1 and 1000:1.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein each capillary has an aspect ratio of between 20:1 and 100:1.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein each capillary has an aspect ratio of between 40:1 and 50:1.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each capillary has a length of between 5mm and 10 cm.

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6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the lumen of each capillary has an internal diameter of between  $3\mu\text{m}$  and  $500\mu\text{m}$ .

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of capillaries are held together by being fused to one another.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the reference indicia are located at intervals of a number of capillaries.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the reference indicia are located at edges of the array.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the reference indicia comprise glass.

Claims 11-43 (Cancelled)

44. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising one or more reference indicia disposed within the interstitial material.